

CAMPUS & COMMUNITY

Veteran’s Day at UW-Superior

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Nov. 11, 2025, marked the 107th Veterans Day in the United States, honoring all veterans and service members from the United States Military. University of Wisconsin-Superior (UW-Superior) on the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month held a ceremony to be able to recognize veterans, including the many that are a part of the campus’s community.

Harry Anderson, assistant vice chancellor said that “Veterans Day gives us a special occasion to pause and remember all of those living, and those who come before us, and those who are deceased who have answered the call to defend our great nation’s constitution.”

As part of the ceremony,



Lee Swenson receiving the Henry Bloomberg Award from Harry Anderson in the Yellowjacket Union on Nov. 11
Photo by Emily Tews | Promethean

the Veteran and Non-Traditional Student Center (VNSC) awarded three previous or current students with the Henry Bloomberg Award. This award is named for Henry Bloomberg, a UW-Superior alumni who served during World War I. Individuals are nominated for their accomplishments, both military and community-oriented, along with

their personal integrity and character.

This year, the Henry Bloomberg award was given to Brent Stelzer, a former Staff Sergeant in the United States Army and second year student in UW-Superior’s Master of Science in Education Counseling Program; Lee Swenson, a former Captain in the United States Army and 1982 graduate

from UW-Superior with a Bachelor of Science in Public Relations and a minor in business administration; along with Zach Kruse, a former Corporal in the United States Marine Corp, a current University Police Department Officer and a bachelor’s degree in criminal justice from UW-Superior.

The award winners and their nominators were recognized during the ceremony. Ashley Rumble spoke about the process of nominating Swenson for this award after working with him through Swenson’s work with veteran hospice patients, saying that “it was a pleasure to be able to nominate Lee, I think we always look for ways to honor our volunteers, and this was a more special way that since he has that military experience as a veteran, and he honors so many of our

veteran patients, why not?”

Swenson encourages everyone, but especially students to volunteer and get involved in their community, saying simply to “follow your heart, follow your passion.”

The Grad Walk

Saturday, December 13, 2025
Time slots 10am-12pm

Located in
Yellowjacket Union



Congratulations Fall 2025
Graduates!!!!

Red Cross Day at UW-Superior

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Students at University of Wisconsin-Superior recently had the opportunity to learn about international humanitarian law and lifesaving emergency skills during the Red Cross Day event held on campus Nov. 13. The event, which drew about 75 participants, is part of a long-standing partnership between UW-Superior and the American Red Cross.

Jeff Kazel, regional director for the Service to the Armed Forces and International Services for the American Red Cross, said the collaboration is rooted in strong local connections. “Our northern chapter’s executive director is a UWS graduate, and one of our lead international services instructors, who is a renowned

expert, is also a professor at UWS,” he said.

One of the attractions was the Refugee Exhibit. This interactive experience helped students understand the daily challenges faced by displaced people around the world, while also introducing them to the humanitarian laws that protect refugees. “It’s an example of what a day in the life of a refugee might be,” Kazel said. The exhibit was facilitated by Dr. Dokhanchi who is an internationally recognized services instructor and professor at UWS.

Students also had the opportunity to practice Hands-only CPR and participate in the Red Cross Holiday Cards for Heroes program which sends messages of care and encouragement to veterans, both active and retired. Kazel

explained the Red Cross’s longstanding role supporting service members and their families. “We’re there at the beginning of their military careers, during deployments, and even in retirement homes,” he said.

Many students took part in these activities, but this year’s Hands-only CPR sessions saw lower than usual attendance. But for Owen Fifield, Red Cross Community Disaster Program Manager, “Turnout never determines the value of the work. If you can learn a presentation that will help others learn a life-saving skill in thirty minutes, you should do it.”

Fifield joined the Red Cross in 2012 through the AmeriCorps program. During his tenure, he has trained volunteers, conducted community outreach, and taught preparedness



Thorben Haskins (left) and Jeff Kazel (right) tabling for Red Cross on the Refugee Exhibit on Thursday, Nov. 13.
Photo by Hannah Hutton | Promethean

programs for all ages. When asked why this work was so important, he responded, “when it comes to cardiac emergencies, bystanders save lives. The more bystanders trained, the better the chances someone will survive.”

The next Red Cross Day at UW-Superior is scheduled for March 25, 2026. For

those interested in volunteering or seeking health and safety training, the Red Cross website offers resources and opportunities to get involved. For more information visit: <https://www.redcross.org/volunteer/become-a-volunteer.html>

Gov. Evers discusses community concerns with Northern Wisconsin residents

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Gov. Tony Evers along with local health care leaders, tribal representatives, and leaders in nonprofit advocacy met at the beginning of November 2025 in Douglas County, Wis.

Touching on many topics, the conversation concentrated on concerns about major federal changes that could disrupt access to both health care and food for hundreds of thousands of Wisconsinites. The discussion focused on the impending expiration of the pandemic era Affordable Care Act (ACA) tax credits and ongoing instability surrounding FoodShare, Wisconsin’s SNAP program (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program).

At the beginning of the meeting, Gov. Evers explained that pandemic era tax credits under the ACA have helped many Wisconsinites keep their health insurance affordable. With those credits slated to expire due to lack of congressional action, insurance costs are

expected to spike drastically.

Evers also discussed how higher costs will lead to more people seeking care only when they are already in crisis. “When people are without or have very little health insurance, where do they go? ER,” he said. Evers described this as a looming crisis for both individuals and hospital systems.

In discussing the connection between food insecurity and general health, Wisconsin leaders raised concerns about rising health insurance costs. According to a local health care worker: “People cannot afford their inhalers. They cannot afford their medications. They cannot afford to go to urgent care.” Another health care worker said, “We are seeing an increase in stress, anxiety and depression. People are overwhelmed.”

Food access was a major concern after the government shutdown disrupted SNAP and FoodShare schedules. A community provider discussed how local families are already feeling the effects of the government



Gov. Tony Evers with Douglas County providers in Superior Public Library on Oct. 29
Photo by Hannah Hutton | Promethean

shutdown. They went on to say, “People are worried their FoodShare will not load. They are calling us nonstop. They rely on that to feed their kids.”

Another provider discussed how food insecurity and health instability connect to each other. They said, “When people do not know if they can feed their family, everything else gets worse. Their mental health. Their physical health. Their stress

levels. It is all connected.”

Gov. Evers urged Wisconsin residents to contact their federal representatives. “We need people to understand the huge impact this will have on our state,” he said. “We need Congress to act.”

If you wish to contact your local representative, you can find your representative at the link below by inputting your zip code. <https://www.house.gov/representatives/find-your-representative>

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Residents of Douglas County who wish to contact their representative can contact the congressional Rep. Tom Tiffany. Connect with Rep. Tiffany through the representative website either through email, by submitting an email form, or by phone at the Wausau district office (715) 298-9344 or the Washington DC office (202) 225-3365.